

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE NO. 74-94

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 4/22/49	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/11 - 4/14/49	REPORT MADE BY PHILIP H. WILSON <i>JP</i>
TITLE JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was., et al			CHARACTER OF CASE CONFIDENTIAL PERJURY, ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

TANSEL BUTLER interviewed and furnished no pertinent information concerning DAVID ZIMMERMAN or the apartment utilized by ZIMMERMAN in Washington, D. C. Investigation at 1116 Owens Street, North-east, revealed this address to be a single family dwelling. Unlike the apartment described by WHITTAKER CHAMBERS. Former associates of DAVID ZIMMERMAN at the Workers Alliance were interviewed and could furnish no information concerning his Washington, D. C. address. One associate at the Workers Alliance, AL FRIEDMAN, reportedly is a photographer. FRIEDMAN's present whereabouts unknown.

Classified by *SP-7MAC/PSK*

Declassify on: OADR

FCR#B7-15

4/21/86

- P -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT

REFERENCE:

Bureau file 74-1333. WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.
Report of Special Agent JOSEPH E. KELLER dated March 10, 1949 at Washington, D. C.
Report of Special Agent ROBERT F. X. O'KEEFE dated March 22, 1949 at New York, New York.

DETAILS:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

(INVESTIGATION RE DAVID ZIMMERMAN, was.)

The following is the joint investigation of Special Agent HARRY K. CLAYTON and the writer.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>May Hattie</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED 169 DEC 16 1964		74-1333-3049	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 3 - New York (1 Thomas J. Donagen, Special Assistant to the Attorney General) 2 - Baltimore (65-1642) 2 - Washington Field		RECORDED MAY 18 1949	
		RECORDED - 25 INDEXED - 25	

53 MAY 26 1949

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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On March 1, 1949, TANSEL BUTLER, 300 K Street, Northeast, was interviewed concerning any information he might furnish with regard to DAVID ZIMMERMAN, former editor of "Work", official organ of the Workers Alliance of America.

BUTLER explained that he was President of the District of Columbia Branch of the Workers Alliance from 1936 to April 1939; that his branch maintained a separate staff and headquarters from that of the National offices, and consequently, his contacts with National officers of the Alliance were infrequent. He stated that in the course of his duties he would confer occasionally with National Officers DAVID LASSER and HERBERT BENJAMIN, both whom he knew quite well. BUTLER advised that he knew DAVID ZIMMERMAN slightly, but that he never knew where ZIMMERMAN resided in Washington, D. C. He recalled ZIMMERMAN by no other name nor does he recall knowing any of ZIMMERMAN's friends.

With reference to the apartment utilized by ZIMMERMAN in Washington, D. C. for photographing documents, BUTLER was questioned as to whether he knew anyone in the Communist Party or any individual associated with the Workers Alliance who, about 1936 to 1938, resided in the general vicinity of Lincoln Park and Eastern High School. BUTLER stated that he did not.

With reference to the investigation at 1116 Owens Street, Northeast, to determine whether this address of JOHN R. CARROLL could have been the apartment utilized by ZIMMERMAN, it was revealed that it is a single family row house. As further indication that it is not the address sought, it is to be noted that this address is outside the general area surrounding Lincoln Park.

With reference to further investigation concerning the Workers Alliance and individuals connected with that organization, all issues of "Work", official organ of the Workers Alliance, were reviewed at the Department of Labor library on April 7, 1949 to determine the names of individuals associated with ZIMMERMAN and the National organization while it was located in Washington, D. C. This search revealed the following people who probably were in a position to have known and associated with him.

DAVID LASSER (now in Europe with the Economic Cooperation Administration for an indefinite period)

HERBERT BENJAMIN, Executive Secretary

MARY K. GORMAN, Editor

JOHN R. CARROLL, Business Manager

BETTY URANSON, Secretary to HERBERT BENJAMIN

RAE MILLER, Bookkeeper

LORA MERMIN, Stenographer

ROSE FOX, Stenographer

EDDIE FELDER, Circulation Department

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Mrs. BETTY POSNIAK, nee URANSON, 5409 39th Street, Northwest, was recontacted on April 11, 1949 concerning the present whereabouts of RAE MILLER. Mrs. POSNIAK advised that at the time she knew RAE MILLER, the latter was married to SIDNEY GINSBURG, an accountant, and that they lived on L Street, Northwest, near 9th. She recalled RAE MILLER came to Washington, D. C. from Baltimore, Maryland. Mrs. POSNIAK stated she lost track of RAE MILLER upon leaving the Workers Alliance. Mrs. POSNIAK was also recontacted concerning AL _____ whom she had reported handled addressing of "Work". She could not recall his last name but did remember that he was married and his wife's name was GERTA, and that GERTA was a refugee from Austria. During this interview Mrs. POSNIAK recalled the additional information that the sister of ROSE FOX, IDA FOX, was employed at the National Headquarters for Workers Alliance as a secretary.

It will be noted as set out below that IDA FOX reported that HERBERT BENJAMIN had employed a girl named ETHEL _____ at the Alliance. With respect to determining ETHEL's last name, Mrs. BETTY POSNIAK was recontacted on April 13, 1949, at which time she recalled ETHEL and stated her last name is KALIMANS; that KALIMANS is a relative of HERBERT BENJAMIN.

On April 14, 1949 Mrs. BETTY POSNIAK telephoned the Washington Field Office to advise the writer that she had just recalled that AL's last name is FRIEDMAN and that upon reflection she recalls AL did some of the photographic assignments of "Work", and that he carried a small, expensive, foreign-made camera resembling a Leica.

The 1948 city directory lists SIDNEY and RAE GINSBURG as residing in apartment 381B, 2413 14th Street, Northeast, Washington, D. C. Inquiry of neighbors in that vicinity on April 11, 1949 revealed the information that the GINSBURGS have moved and told their neighbors they were going to Baltimore, Maryland. U. S. Post Office records reflect that on March 7, 1949 the forwarding address 2510 Rosedale Street, Baltimore 16, Maryland, was received as the forwarding address for the GINSBURGS.

It is interesting to note that highly reliable Washington confidential informants T-1, T-2, T-3 and T-4 had reported that while RAE GINSBURG was living in Washington, D. C., she was treasurer of the United Public Workers of America - CIO, Women's Auxiliary, and was an associate of the following individuals: ~~SC~~

SYLVIA and HENRY BEITSCHER
ANN STEIN
FRANCES JACOBSON
SELMA REIN
ETHEL WEISSER

~~SC~~
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Washington informant T-2 indicated that GINSBURG was active in the Progressive Citizens of America. Highly reliable Washington informant T-5 stated that SIDNEY GINSBURG while in Washington, D. C. was connected with the Tass News Agency and allegedly hires people for this agency.

In connection with investigation of another matter, it was noted that LORA MERMIN, nee LORA NELL NIFONG, resided in apartment 13, 529 G Street, Southeast, Washington, D. C., during the period about 1937. This address is within a reasonably close proximity to Lincoln Park. There is a Capital Transit streetcar line within a block and one-half and there is a small park a block distant. Inasmuch as LORA MERMIN also was employed in the Workers Alliance, investigation was conducted to ascertain whether 529 G Street, Southeast, could have been the apartment utilized by ZIMMERMAN.

It was subsequently ascertained that 529 G Street, Southeast, is a three-story red brick apartment building and that apartment 13 is not on the first floor. It was also ascertained that LORA MERMIN's father, SAMUEL LEE NIFONG, resided at that address from 1932 to 1941. NIFONG who is a machinist and who resides at 4414 Chestnut Street, Bethesda, Maryland, was interviewed at his place of employment, 619 H Street, Northwest, on April 6, 1949. NIFONG stated that his daughter, LORA, resided in his home at 529 G Street, Southeast, for a period of six months or more during 1936; that she left home about August of that year because he had remonstrated her about the "low caliber" of her friends, her enthusiasm about the Communist Party and her associations with Negroes. NIFONG could not recall that his daughter ever told him she was employed by the Workers Alliance. He did recall that she once introduced him to a girlfriend named RAE MILLER. He stated that the names DAVID ZIMMERMAN, DAVID CARPENTER and HAROLD WILSON, as well as photographs of ZIMMERMAN are entirely unfamiliar to him. Upon examining a 1936 photograph of WHITTAKER CHAMBERS dressed in sports clothes, he stated that the photograph somewhat resembles a short, stout man who on three or four occasions accompanied his daughter to the apartment, but that as he recalls, the man's name was SHASTEC (phonetic).

NIFONG was questioned with regard to the possibility that his apartment could have been used for photographic purposes and NIFONG advised that although he was working nights during 1936 he doubted that any of the friends of his daughter were photographers who did their own work. He subsequently recalled that SHASTEC carried a camera on the occasions he saw him, but does not have the impression that he ever saw SHASTEC use it.

It is noted that during the interview NIFONG exhibited a very cooperative attitude and appeared to answer all questions fully and to the best of his knowledge.

Unless some justification exists, no further investigation of LORA MERMIN will be conducted.

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In regard to ROSE FOX, it was ascertained that subsequent to her leaving the Workers Alliance, she was employed by the Department of Justice and later transferred from there to the State Department. At the State Department inquiry revealed ROSE FOX died in December 1948.

Miss IDA FOX, Apartment 42, 1420 R Street, Northwest, was interviewed on April 8, 1949 at which time she stated that she was employed as DAVID LASSER's secretary at the Workers Alliance for a year or more until the time she resigned in July 1939. Miss FOX did not recall DAVID ZIMMERMAN until after viewing his photograph. She then admitted that she had known him but stated that she had no reason to contact him with respect to her duties while employed at the Alliance.

Miss FOX was questioned regarding anyone on the staff of the Alliance who resided in the vicinity of Lincoln Park or Eastern High School. She stated that she only knew the addresses of HERBERT BENJAMIN and DAVID LASSER, both of whom lived in the Northwest Section of Washington, D. C.

With respect to JOHN R. CARROLL she recalled he was an amateur photographer and may have taken some of the photographs for "Work" during the early days of its existence in Washington, D. C. Miss FOX believed that AL _____, whose last name she cannot recall and whom she described as a short, stout, dark, young man, regularly handled photographic assignments for the newspaper. Miss FOX further advised that of the members of the staff, DAVID LASSER might know where ZIMMERMAN resided in Washington, D. C. She has the impression that ZIMMERMAN commuted from Baltimore, Maryland.

On April 12, 1949 Miss FOX was recontacted and she reported that a search of records she kept concerning the Workers Alliance revealed that in addition to the names of the staff members already known to the agents, HERBERT BENJAMIN had brought to the Alliance a young girl named ETHEL whose last name she could not recall. ETHEL was a steno-typist and later left to take Government employment. Miss FOX also informed that there had been employed a Mrs. JANET KARRO who now resided at Mineola, Long Island, New York, with her husband, SAM KARRO and an uncle, ABE KARRO. Miss FOX stated Mrs. KARRO can be contacted by checking the Queens telephone directory for a listing in the uncle's name.

It should be noted in regard to MARY K. GORMAN that the New York Office advised by teletype dated April 4, 1949 that MARY GORMAN has refused to be interviewed on advice of counsel.

On April 8, 1949 EDWARD ALONZO FELDER, also known as EDDIE FELDER, 5092 Just Street, Northeast, was interviewed with reference to his employment at the National Headquarters of the Workers Alliance of America during the approximate period ZIMMERMAN was identified with the organization at Washington, D. C.

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FELDER stated that he was a member of the Communist Party for four or five years and had originally obtained employment at the Workers Alliance after having been sent there by the Communist Party. FELDER stated that his duties at the Workers Alliance were janitorial and that they also consisted of helping in the Circulation Department.

He reported that he had known DAVID LASSER, HERBERT BENJAMIN, BETTY URANSON, LORA MERMIN, the FOX sisters and JOHNNIE CARROLL, but that he cannot recall DAVID ZIMMERMAN or AL _____. He stated that he believes his failure to recall ZIMMERMAN is probably due to the fact that he left the organization before that individual became identified with the National staff. FELDER could recall no one identified with the organization who resided in the vicinity of Lincoln Park or Eastern High School. On April 13, 1949 HERBERT BENJAMIN was interviewed at his place of business, the Metropolitan News Agency, 603 15th Street, Northwest. BENJAMIN was questioned at length concerning DAVID ZIMMERMAN. He claimed that he had not known ZIMMERMAN well and that so far as he recalls, ZIMMERMAN did not reside in Washington, D. C. but commuted from Baltimore, Maryland. BENJAMIN admitted that he had hired ZIMMERMAN but stated that he cannot recall the circumstances surrounding his selection of ZIMMERMAN for the position. BENJAMIN also was questioned concerning ETHEL _____. He denied knowing such a person or that she is a relative. He later admitted recalling ETHEL and stated he believed her last name was CALIMAN. BENJAMIN advised that he recalls AL _____ but that he does not remember his last name. He stated that AL probably came to Washington, D. C. from New York City. He also recalled that AL had a wife who was an Austrian refugee. BENJAMIN advised that he does not know the present whereabouts of AL or ETHEL. He also stated that he does not recall anyone on the staff of the Workers Alliance who resided in the vicinity of Lincoln Park.

On April 14, 1949 Miss ETHEL T. KALIMANS, a public stenographer, located at 814 17th Street, Northwest, was interviewed and advised she is a niece of HERBERT BENJAMIN who is married to her mother's sister. She stated that HERBERT BENJAMIN employed her at the Workers Alliance in Washington, D. C. at various times over a period of a year or more during 1937 or 1938. Miss KALIMANS informed that she can recall very little about her associates at the Workers Alliance and that she does not recall DAVID ZIMMERMAN or AL _____. Miss KALIMANS said she never knew the addresses of any of the staff and that she does not know where any of them can be located at the present time.

The pertinent criss-cross telephone directories and city directories were checked to ascertain whether any of the individuals whose names were revealed by this investigation had resided in the Lincoln Park area of Washington, D. C. during the period 1936 to 1939. None were so noted. However, it was found that there were three families who in 1936 were living at the addresses picked out by CHAMBERS during his attempt to identify the apartment

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utilized by DAVID ZIMMERMAN in February 1949. Information concerning the three families is set out below.

ORVILLE and HARRIET COTT are listed as residing at 1618 A Street, Southeast, in 1936. It was subsequently ascertained that ORVILLE COTT moved from this address in 1936 and is presently in Reisterstown, Maryland.

MORTON and THELMA HENDERSON are listed as residing in apartment 4, 1620 B Street, Northeast, in 1936. Mrs. and Mrs. HENDERSON whose present address is apartment 5, 1375 Childress Street, Northeast, Washington, D. C., were interviewed on March 22, 23, and April 5, 1949. They advised that they moved from 1620 B Street, Northeast, in April 1937. Neither furnished any information relative to the identity or activity of the occupants of apartment 2, which is apartment 2 at 1620 B Street, Northeast, during the time the HENDERSONs lived there. Mrs. HENDERSON did state that photographs of DAVID ZIMMERMAN and WHITTAKER CHAMBERS appeared familiar but she was unable to associate them with anyone she had known or had seen at 1620 B Street, Northeast.

MAURICE J. and DIANA WILSIE are listed as occupying apartment 1 at 1618 A Street, Southeast, Washington, D. C., from June through October 1936. WILSIE is presently employed by the Department of Correction, Guidance Center, San Quentin, California. No further investigation concerning these three families appears justified in view of the fact that all three families had moved from their respective addresses prior to the pertinent period reported by CHAMBERS.

The Washington Field Office indices and files were checked regarding the name GLASER. Files reflecting this name and names of similar spelling were checked and none of the individuals reported therein were found to have resided in the Lincoln Park area during 1937 or 1938.

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LEADS

THE NEW YORK OFFICE

At Mineola, Long Island, New York

Will locate and interview Mrs. JANET KARRO concerning any knowledge she has of DAVID VERNON ZIMMERMAN, his activities in Washington, D. C., or the location of his residence while in Washington, D. C.

THE BALTIMORE OFFICE

At Baltimore, Maryland

Will interview Mrs. RAE GINSBURG, nee MILLER, concerning any knowledge of DAVID VERNON ZIMMERMAN, his associates, activities, and residence while in Washington, D. C.

THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

At Washington, D. C.

Will continue investigation to locate and interview AL FRIEDMAN concerning any knowledge he has of DAVID ZIMMERMAN; continuing the interview with the possibility that AL FRIEDMAN might have assisted ZIMMERMAN in photographing documents furnished by CHAMBERS.

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WFO 74-94

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

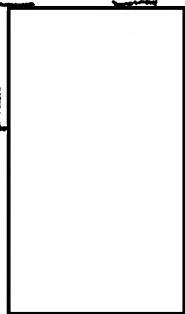
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T-3 is

T-4 is

T-5 is



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE NO. 74-94

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 4/22/49	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/11 - 4/14/49	REPORT MADE BY PHILIP H. WILSON jf
TITLE JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was., et al			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY, ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

TANSEL BUTLER interviewed and furnished no pertinent information concerning DAVID ZIMMERMAN or the apartment utilized by ZIMMERMAN in Washington, D. C. Investigation at 1116 Owens Street, Northeast, revealed this address to be a single family dwelling, unlike the apartment described by WHITTAKER CHAMBERS. Former associates of DAVID ZIMMERMAN at the Workers Alliance were interviewed and could furnish no information concerning his Washington, D. C. address. One associate at the Workers Alliance, AL FRIEDMAN, reportedly is a photographer. FRIEDMAN's present whereabouts unknown.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/11/82 BY SP-7 MAC/PSK
FCR #87-15

REFERENCE:

Bureau file 74-1333.
Report of Special Agent JOSEPH E. KELLER dated March 10, 1949 at Washington, D. C.
Report of Special Agent ROBERT F. X. O'KEEFE dated March 22, 1949 at New York, New York.

DETAILS:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

(INVESTIGATION RE DAVID ZIMMERMAN, was.)

The following is the joint investigation of Special Agent HARRY K. CLAYTON and the writer.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES			
COPIES OF THIS REPORT					
5 - Bureau					
3 - New York (1 Thomas J. Donagen, Special Assistant to the Attorney General)					
2 - Baltimore (65-1642)					
2 - Washington Field					

Kisseloff-7061

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

WFO FILE NO. 74-94

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 4/19/49	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/29-31; 4/1/49	REPORT MADE BY DONALD D. CONNORS	JIF
TITLE JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was, etal			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R	
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>Text of handwritten note designated Q-1; 128-telg. MARY MARTIN, widow of HUGH MARTIN, formerly employed for special work by Legation at Riga. Remember well RUBENS while working for HUGH, be strict if needed, write Lib. Cong., Law Div." FBI laboratory advises this note in handwriting of HISS, although HISS denies note in own handwriting. State Department files reflect Moscow cablegram No. 30, dated January 28, 1938, reads as follows: "Moscow, January 28, 1938, Secretary of State, Washington, D. C., 30, January 28, 11:00 A. M. Have received following telegram from MARTIN, widow of HUGH MARTIN, formerly employed for special work by Legation at Riga (Gray). Quote Remember well RUBENS while working for HUGH, be strict if needed, write Library of Congress, Law Division, signed MARY MARTIN unquote (end Gray) signed HENDERSON". Information copy of this cablegram sent to Office of Assistant Secretary SAYRE. State Department records reflect HUGH STREET MARTIN was State Department employee Latvian Legation, Riga and maintained "contact with confidential information sources", acted as investigator and prepared reports. MARY MARTIN, his wife, before marriage employed in Riga by HUGH MARTIN as "undercover woman agent on Communism"; prior to that employed "undercover woman for Latvian and British Governments Military intelligence" and after death of HUGH MARTIN (1931) employed U. S. Labor Department as investigator in Communist matters. MARY MARTIN now MARIA OLSKOWSKA, Washington resident, advised March 31, 1949 (and furnished statement) that in Latvia she knew one AARON ROBINSON, Agent, Holland American S. S. Lines, involved fraudulent sale of passages</p>				
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		
COPIES DESTROYED 169 DEC 16 1964		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES		
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		74-1333-13050		
(5) - Bureau 1 - T. J. Donegan, SAAG 3 - New York 2 - Washington Field		RECORDED - 25 INDEXED - 25		
53 MAY 20 1949		Kisseloff-7062		

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ADD. DISSEMINATION.cc AAG Campbell
4-21-49
FLJ:am

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FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Photo
CC TO: *Ins - Wash*
REQ. REC'D *6-4-74*
JUN 20 1974
ANS. *PE*
BY: *Frank Olke*

Re: Frank Olke

Photo -
CC TO: *Sec. Service*
REQ. REC'D *1/5/65*
JAN 13 1965
ANS. *Idw Jac*
BY: *Frank Olke*

Kisseloff-7063

to individuals to U. S. and other countries with one HARRY HALL, U. S. Vice Consul. In Pittsburgh, 1933, OLKOWSKA saw unknown woman distributing Communist pamphlets. In 1938 while viewing newspaper pictures of RUBENS-ROBINSON passport case, recognized picture of ADOLPH RUBENS to be AARON ROBINSON and picture of Mrs. RUBENS to be unknown woman seen in Pittsburgh. March 30, 1949, OLKOWSKA advised person knew in Riga was called AARON RUBENS and that she saw RUBENS, himself, in Pittsburgh, 1933. All acquaintances advise OLKOWSKA unreliable, irresponsible and heavy drinker. Marked anti-semitism apparent. State Department records reflect HARRY HALL discharged for false issuance of visas at Warsaw February 15, 1930, served at Riga from August 2, 1924 to July 10, 1928. April 1, 1949, OLKOWSKA advised Latvian she knew at Riga neither RUBENS or ROBINSON but RUBEMS.

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REFERENCE: Bureau File No. 74-1333
New York teletype to WFO and Bureau dated March 28, 1949
Teletypes to Bureau and New York dated March 30 and April 1, 1949.

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

It will be recalled that specimen Q-1 in this matter is a handwritten note which is set out below:

"M-28 Telg. MARY MARTIN, widow of HUGH MARTIN formerly employed for special work by legation at Riga.

"Remember well RUBENS while working for HUGH, be strict if needed, write Lib. Cong. Law Div."

This note was delivered by JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS at his Westminster, Maryland farm to his attorneys, Mr. RICHARD CLEVELAND and Mr. WILLIAM MacMILLAN on November 15, 1948. On November 29, 1948 this document was forwarded by the Baltimore Division to the Bureau and the FBI Laboratory has advised that the handwriting thereon is that of ALGER HISS. As is set out in referenced New York teletype, ALGER HISS denies that this note is in his handwriting.

Kisseloff-7064

On March 29, 1949, CHARLES A. PATTERSON, Assistant Chief, Research Section, Division of Communications and Records, Department of State, with offices in Room 1167, New State Building, displayed to the writer a microfilm of the information copy of Moscow cablegram No. 30, dated January 28, 1938. This cablegram is quoted below:

"Moscow, January 28, 1938

Secretary of State, Washington, D. C. 30
January 28 11:00 A. M.

"Have received following telegram from MARY MARTIN, widow of HUGH MARTIN, formerly employed for special work by Legation at Riga (Gray) Quote Remember well RUBENS while working for HUGH, be strict if needed. Write Library Congress, Law Division, signed MARY MARTIN unquote. (end Gray) Signed HENDERSON."

On the left hand margin of this cablegram was rubber stamped the distribution. This information copy was routed to eleven separate offices in all, including the Office of Assistant Secretary of State FRANCIS B. SAYRE. The symbol indicative of such routing is A-S, which was the symbol used by the mail room at that time to denote the office of Mr. SAYRE. There are no initials on this copy, nor are there other markings reflecting who read or handled this information copy.

In a signed statement given at Baltimore on December 4, 1948, HISS indicated that from January until March, 1938 he was assistant to Mr. SAYRE. Further, the employment of HISS at the U. S. Department of State is a matter of record.

PATTERSON, who resides at 165 36th Street, Northeast, advised that he had ascertained that the action copy of Moscow cablegram No. 30 was maintained in the State Department Passport Division file in the RUBENS-ROBINSON passport fraud case and that this file is maintained by Mr. ASHLEY J. NICHOLAS, who has offices in the Winder Building, 604 17th Street, Northwest.

The individual competent to introduce the microfilm of the information copy of Moscow cablegram No. 30 is Mr. JOHN PUERIFOY, Assistant Secretary of State for Administration, or his assistant, Mr. WALTER K. SCOTT.

On March 29, 1949, the writer viewed the action copy of Moscow Cablegram No. 30. It is noted that this copy was routed only to the Eastern European Division and Passport Division of the State Department.

Kisseloff-7065

The initials of ALGER HISS do not appear on this document. It is maintained as indicated above and bears State Department file No. 361.115, ROBINSON, DONALD L./90.

The State Department Foreign Service files maintained in Room 2638, Temporary H, 21st and C Street, Northwest, in connection with MARY MARTIN were reviewed by the writer on March 29, 1949. These files were produced by IRENE CLOCK. This file reflects that on January 8, 1934, MARY APIN MARTIN at that time residing at 705 18th Street, Northwest, Apartment 326, applied for an appointment in the Russian Embassy of the United States. It is noted that this appointment was not granted.

This file reflects that MARTIN was born in Riga, Russia July 7, 1903 and was the widow of Captain HUGH STREET MARTIN, "before his death an officer with the Department of State, Eastern European Division". This file reflects that MARY MARTIN claimed to be a naturalized American citizen in "October, 1931 through marriage". Her father was given as JULIUS HERONAU APIN, residing at Riga, Latvia and born in Riga. In connection with her qualifications, MARY MARTIN indicated that she could read, write and speak English, Russian, German, Latvian and Ukrainian. She indicated that from 1918 until 1920 she had been employed as "undercover woman for Latvia and British Governments Military Intelligence" and that from 1924 until 1928 she had been employed as "undercover woman-agent on Communism" to Captain HUGH STREET MARTIN, American Legation, Riga, Latvia" and that in 1933 she had been employed as "special investigator on Communism for the U. S. Department of Labor, -----". She indicated that she had resigned the position with the Department of Labor due to inadequate appropriations. As references, MARY MARTIN gave PAT HARRISON and HUBERT D. STEPHENS, both Senators from Mississippi and Representative ROSS A. COLLINS, also from Mississippi.

The file contains three letters of recommendation from these individuals indicating that they know MARY MARTIN as the wife of Captain HUGH MARTIN. In addition, MARY MARTIN listed as references one Captain C. F. BURRAGE and Mr. JESSE LEE WARD, official shorthand reporter for the NRA and her file contains letters from these individuals.

There is a memo in this file indicating that before MARTIN is to be considered, one Mr. KELLEY in Eastern European Division should be contacted.

On the same date, the writer reviewed the file of HUGH STREET MARTIN, also produced by Miss IRENE CLOCK. This file reflects that HUGH MARTIN was born December 28, 1891 at Meridian, Mississippi and that on June 30, 1916 he was appointed as a clerk in the American Embassy at Petrograd, Russia. The file indicates that MARTIN was private secretary

Kisseloff-7066

to Senator JOHN SHARP WILLIAMS, of Mississippi for five years and four months. Senator WILLIAMS is listed as a reference by MARTIN as are M. M. VENEABLE and V. D. HUMPHREYS, both members of the House of Representatives from the 5th District, Mississippi. It is noted that MARTIN was single at the time he accepted the appointment to the Petrograd Embassy.

As set out above, MARTIN accepted on June 30, 1916 a clerkship in the Petrograd Embassy which he resigned on November 15, 1918 to accept a commission as a Captain in the U. S. Army. On April 5, 1922 he was reappointed as a clerk in the U. S. Legation at Riga, Latvia. On February 7, 1929 he resigned this position to accept a position in the Eastern European Division of the State Department at Washington, D. C. At the time he resigned from the Latvian Legation his title was special assistant to the Minister. This file contains an efficiency report dated March 10, 1928. In a general appraisal of MARTIN's fitness, the following paragraph is noted:

"particularly valuable as an investigator. Useful in checking up information coming from other sources. Performs work of most delicate nature in a most tactful way. An excellent directing officer."

In a paragraph dealing with the nature of MARTIN's duties, the following appears:

"maintains contact with confidential information sources. Prepares reports and dispatches, assists consulate in investigation of visa cases (Russian)."

There is a letter in this file from one D. L. HOUGH dated February 7, 1922 written on the stationery of the Foundation Company, 20 Liberty Street, Northwest. This letter indicates that HOUGH lived in the USSR for seven years prior to August 20, 1917 and knew that HUGH MARTIN was a member of the Military Commission under General JUDSON (elsewhere this file reflects that MARTIN served at Archangel, Russia)

This letter also indicated that MARTIN had been recently engaged in "combatting Bolshevist propaganda", had come to the limit of his funds, and was in need of employment. This file also indicated that MARTIN had written several articles on Bolshevism which articles had appeared in various unnamed magazines.

On March 29, 1949, the writer reviewed the file of HUGH STREET MARTIN at the Walker Johnson Building. It is noted that this file dealt with MARTIN's employment in the Eastern European Division of the State
Kisseloff-7067

Department. This file reflected that MARTIN died on Thursday, February 19, 1931 at Garfield Hospital and was buried in the Arlington National Cemetery. It indicated he was in the U. S. Army from January 2, 1918 until October 28, 1919 and further that he was a military observer in the North Russian campaign. This file further indicated that one ROBERT F. KELLEY was MARTIN's superior in the Eastern European Division. This file reflected that MARTIN's widow was one MARY APIN MARTIN.

The RUBENS-ROBINSON passport file at the State Department contains a memo reflecting that on March 18, 1938 MARY MARTIN was interviewed by one R. C. BANNERMAN, of the State Department, at which time MARTIN advised that in explanation of her telegram to Mr. HENDERSON in Moscow, that while employed by the Department of Labor in February, 1933 as an undercover investigator of Communist activities in the U. S., she was in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, temporarily employed there in a large manufacturing establishment. While there she became a member of one of the cells of the Communist Party and attended two secret meetings of cell members at various establishments in the District of Pittsburgh. Both of these meetings were addressed by one Comrade RUBENS whom she was immediately able to identify as the RUBENS under arrest in Moscow. Her identification rests entirely on the name and pictures of RUBENS but whereas she described RUBENS as a man of slight build, the RUBENS under arrest in Moscow would weigh over 190 lbs. MARTIN stated that the RUBENS she knew in Pittsburgh was evidently a Latvian but his speech indicated that he had been in this country for several years.

It is noted that this memo indicates that Mr. BANNERMAN is inclined to believe that little confidence can be placed in the identification by MARY MARTIN of the RUBENS under arrest in Moscow as the RUBENS whom she saw in Pittsburgh in 1933. Further, Mr. BANNERMAN on March 29, 1949 advised that he recalled this incident and was of the opinion that this was a misidentification on the part of MARY MARTIN. He could furnish no further information and did not know the present address of MARY MARTIN.

The files of the Washington Credit Bureau, 1221 H Street, Northwest, reviewed by the writer on March 29, 1949, contained no reference to MARY MARTIN. The records of Stone's Mercantile Agency, 1419 H Street, Northwest, reviewed March 29, 1949, by the writer, indicated only that MARY MARTIN was represented in connection with the estate of HUGH MARTIN by attorneys E. A. MOORE and N. H. BRITTON, both of Washington, D. C.

It will be recalled that in her cablegram to Moscow, MARY MARTIN advised "write Library Congress, Law Division".

On March 30, 1949, the writer was advised by Mr. WILLIAM H. CROUCH, Acting Assistant Law Librarian, Library of Congress, that he was unacquainted with MARY MARTIN but that if she were a Latvian, she

might be known to one Dr. VLADIMIR GSVOSKI, Chief of the Foreign Law Division of the Library of Congress.

On this same date Dr. GSVOSKI, who resides at 1413 Chapin Street, Northwest, advised that he was well acquainted with MARY MARTIN and indicated that she had been employed by him for about six months in approximately 1937. Dr. GSVOSKI stated that MARY MARTIN had, since 1937, remarried and he was unable to recall her married name, knowing only that it began in "O" and ended in "ski". He stated that it was a Polish name. Dr. GSVOSKI advised that he has been annoyed by telephone calls from MARY MARTIN ever since 1937 and added that he would get a call every two or three months. He observed that it was obvious that when MARTIN made these calls that she had been drinking and it was the opinion of GSVOSKI that she was drunk when she placed these calls. Dr. GSVOSKI added that MARY MARTIN was definitely persona non grata to local Latvians of good repute and added that in his opinion, she was irresponsible and unreliable. He stated that one Mr. RUDOLF SMITS, Librarian in the Government Publication Section of the Library of Congress might be able to furnish MARTIN's present name and whereabouts.

On the same date Mr. SMITS, who resides at 210 East Underwood, Chevy Chase, Maryland, advised that MARY MARTIN was now known as MARIA or MARY OLKOWSKA and that she resided at 1409 15th Street, Northwest. Mr. SMITS expressed a complete unanimity of views in connection with Dr. GSVOSKI's appraisal of MARY MARTIN's character.

On March 30, 1949, MARIA MARTIN OLKOWSKA was interviewed by Special Agent THOMAS J. BARRY and the writer at her residence, 1409 15th Street, Northwest, Apartment No. 42, Telephone ADams 0094. It is noted that Mrs. OLKOWSKA is now the wife of one FRANK OLKOWSKA, an employee of the Mayflower Hotel. She stated he sometimes calls himself FRANK OLKE and that this shortening of his name is for business reasons. She stated that while she was working for her former husband, HUGH MARTIN, in Riga, she knew an individual named AARON RUBENS, at that time ticket agent for the Holland-America steamship Line and that this RUBENS was involved with one HARRY HALL, U. S. Vice Consul in fraudulently obtaining passage and visas for Latvian Jews to the U. S. and other countries. OLKOWSKA advised that RUBENS was definitely a Communist and that he did not work for HUGH MARTIN. According to OLKOWSKA, HARRY HALL was discharged for his part in this fraudulent scheme. She stated her former husband had detailed her to follow both RUBENS and HALL and that she thus had first hand knowledge of their business dealings. OLKOWSKA continued by stating that she next met RUBENS in Pittsburgh in about 1933 at which time she was employed by the U. S. Department of Labor as an undercover investigator in connection with Communist matters. At this time OLKOWSKA was not positive that the

RUBENS whom she knew in Latvia and Pittsburgh was identical with the individual involved in the RUBENS-ROBINSON passport fraud. She stated that before she could make a positive identification she must first see a picture of the RUBENS involved in the RUBENS-ROBINSON fraud. OLKOWSKA recalled talking to Mr. R. C. BANNERMAN in connection with this episode and advised she had related to him substantially the same facts set out above. OLKOWSKA at this time advised she was a very good friend of LLOYD W. HENDERSON, who in 1938 was the recipient of her cablegram to Moscow. She further recalled the cablegram and advised at the time she wanted HENDERSON to deal harshly with RUBENS because she believed him to be a Communist and thought him identical with the RUBENS whom she knew in Latvia and whom she had seen in Pittsburgh. When Mrs. OLKOWSKA was asked whether or not she had received an appointment in the U. S. State Department in 1934, she became somewhat incensed and advised that ROBERT F. KEELEY had blocked this appointment because KEELEY knew that OLKOWSKA's marriage to Captain MARTIN had constituted bigamy on the part of Captain MARTIN. She further stated that Mr. KEELEY had always been "prejudiced" against her. At this time OLKOWSKA produced letters indicating she was actually employed by the U. S. Labor Department as an investigator in 1933. She also produced numerous clippings of speeches, short stories and articles written by Captain HUGH MARTIN. The speeches were markedly anti-Communist and anti-Bolshevist in tone.

At this time OLKOWSKA made the remark that all Communists are Jews and that RUBENS was a Jew Communist. She further stated that all Jews "should be locked up".

On March 30, 1949, Special Agents THOMAS J. BARRY and the writer interviewed Mr. ROBERT F. KELLEY, who resides at 1726 20th Street, Northwest and who retired from the State Department in about 1945. KELLEY advised that he was fairly well acquainted with Captain MARTIN and had met MARY MARTIN several times. He stated that it was his firm belief that Captain MARTIN had drank himself to death because of his unhappy marriage with MARY MARTIN. KELLEY further advised that this was Captain MARTIN's second marriage and that his first marriage had been to a Russian girl, the name of whom KELLEY could not recall. KELLEY stated that in about 1931 he had given MARTIN a position in the Eastern European Division of the State Department in the hope that MARTIN would straighten out, but that MARTIN had continued to drink. In connection with HARRY HALL, KELLEY advised that he did recall that an individual by this name had been summarily discharged by the State Department for fraud in connection with visa issues but KELLEY was of the opinion that this discharge occurred at Warsaw, Poland. He advised that he had no further knowledge or connection with this incident. KELLEY also advised that one EARL PACKER, now Consul General at Tunis, knows both HUGH MARTIN

Kisseloff-7070

and MARY MARTIN and could possibly furnish further information in connection with them.

On March 31, 1949, Special Agents THOMAS J. BARRY and the writer reinterviewed MARY OLKOWSKA at which time the following signed statement was taken:

*March 31, 1949
Washington, D. C.

"I, MARIA MARTIN OLKOWSKA, make the following statement to THOMAS J. BARRY and DONALD D. CONNORS, JR., who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice. I make this statement freely and voluntarily, and no threats or promises have been made to me. I know that I may secure the services of an attorney, but do not wish to do so. I know that this statement may be used in a court of law.

"My name is now MARIA OLKOWSKA, and I was born in Riga, Latvia, on July 7, 1903. From about 1924 until 1931 I worked for Captain HUGH S. MARTIN, for part of that time in Riga, Latvia. Captain MARTIN and I were married in Riga in the summertime of 1924, I think on May 25th. Captain MARTIN and I were married again in Alexandria on June 16, 1930. While I worked for Captain MARTIN I was an unofficial undercover woman for information on communism, getting information on communists in Riga.

"While in Riga, doing this work, I knew one AARON ROBINSON who was agent for the Holland American line in Riga. ROBINSON was illegally obtaining passage for certain persons to the United States and other countries. One HARRY HALL, vice-counsel at the U. S. Legation at Latvia, in Riga, was instrumental in obtaining visas for these persons who were helped by ROBINSON. HALL was discharged for this conduct by the U. S. State Department. I saw HAROLD HALL and ROBINSON exchanging money while I was watching them under instructions from Captain HUGH MARTIN. This ROBINSON was a Communist; he did not work for Capt. MARTIN.

"I was in Pittsburgh about February, 1933 working for the Department of Labor and I saw a woman there in a labor building distributing Communist pamphlets.

"Later in 1938, I saw her picture in the newspaper, and I recognized her. Her picture was in the newspaper in connection with the RUBENS passport case, and the newspapers said that this woman and her husband were imprisoned in Moscow.

Kisseloff-7071

"When I saw this picture, I wired LLOYD W. HENDERSON to be strict with RUBENS, because, from the pictures in the newspapers, I recognised that RUBENS was the man I saw in Riga as ROBINSON, as I said above, and that the woman's picture was the woman I saw in Pittsburgh, distributing the Communist pamphlets.

"In Pittsburgh I was special labor investigator #37 for un-American activities in the United States.

"I, MARIA MARTIN OLKOWSKA, have read the foregoing statement consisting of one and one half pages (1½) pages and declared it true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

/s/ MARIA MARTIN OLKOWSKA

March 31st, 1949

Witnessed:

DONALD D. CONNORS, JR.
FBI, Washington, D. C.

THOMAS J. BARRY
FBI, Washington, D. C."

It is noted that at this interview OLKOWSKA was shown pictures previously obtained from the State Department of Mr. and Mrs. ADOLF ARNOLD RUBENS. Upon seeing these pictures, OLKOWSKA immediately stated that this RUBENS was not the RUBENS she had known in Latvia. As soon as she saw the picture of Mrs. RUBENS, OLKOWSKA explained that this was the person she had seen in Pittsburgh. When questioned in this connection, Mrs. OLKOWSKA advised that she had in 1933, while working in Pittsburgh for the U. S. Department of Labor as outlined above, observed an unknown woman distributing Communist Party literature in the hall of a labor building and that when she saw the pictures of Mrs. RUBENS in the newspaper in 1938 she had recognized the newspaper pictures to be pictures of the woman she had seen in Pittsburgh. Mrs. OLKOWSKA was then asked whether or not she had seen RUBENS in company with this unknown woman in Pittsburgh, whereupon she denied having seen RUBENS in Pittsburgh.

It was pointed out to Mrs. OLKOWSKA that she had advised on the previous day that she had seen RUBENS in Pittsburgh and further that she had furnished this information to the State Department in 1938, whereupon, she became enraged and stated that everybody was trying to "confuse her". She was most positive at this time that she had never seen RUBENS in Pittsburgh. She further stated that the Latvian agent for the Holland-

American lines whom she knew in Riga was named ROBINSON instead of RUBENS. This did not occur to her until she was preparing to sign the statement. In connection with this ROBINSON she advised that on one occasion she had seen money-pass between HALL and ROBINSON. On this occasion she said she was surveilling ROBINSON pursuant to a request of Captain MARTIN. OLKOWSKA insisted at this time that the set of facts outlined in the signed statement is the true situation with regard to her sending the cablegram to HENDERSON in Moscow. She advised that the reason she had sent the cablegram to HENDERSON in Moscow was because she did not like RUBENS in that he was a Jew and probably a Communist and she felt he should be dealt with harshly.

It is noted that on April 1, 1949, OLKOWSKA telephonically advised the writer that she had now arrived at the conclusion that the person whom she knew in Riga, that is, the Holland-American Line Agent, was named RUBENS rather than RUBENS or ROBINSON.

Attention is invited to the obvious discrepancies in the information furnished by OLKOWSKA.

On April 1, 1949, the State Department records in connection with HARRY F. HALL, maintained in Room 2638, Temporary H Building, were reviewed by the writer. These records reflect that HALL was born February 1, 1893 at MacDonald, Pennsylvania and that he was appointed a clerk at the Latvian Legation at Riga on June 30, 1924. As of August 2, 1924 he was vice-consul and clerk in charge of the Alien Visa Section and on April 1, 1927 he was at Riga in charge of Russian and Latvian quotas. On July 10, 1928, he entered on duty as vice-consul and clerk at Malmo, Sweden. On November 12, 1928, he was transferred to Warsaw, Poland as Clerk and vice-consul and on February 15, 1930 he was summarily dismissed after confessing the issuance of false visas. At a Federal trial in the United States he was sentenced to two years suspended and placed on five years probation, the probation officer being named as R. C. BANNERMAN. The court which handed down this decision is not identified. It is noted that HALL served in the U. S. Army from October 19, 1917 until September 17, 1919.

- P E N D I N G -

Kisseloff-7073

ADMINISTRATIVE

It is noted that Agents who interviewed MARIA MARTIN OLKOWSKA are of the opinion that far beyond not making a desirable witness, she would make an extremely poor one. In this connection the low opinion in which she is generally held by her acquaintances is cited. Further, the discrepancies in her stories outlined in the details of this report render it nearly unintelligible. She is markedly nervous, drinks heavily and is extremely obese and untidy. Her anti-semitism is unmistakably apparent in her entire outlook and conversation. She stated on March 31, 1949 that neither FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT nor HARRY TRUMAN were really Presidents of the United States but that BERNARD BARUCH was in fact President and that both President ROOSEVELT and President TRUMAN were little more than puppets. She observed that President TRUMAN was "no Good" inasmuch as he had been engaged in business with a man named JACOBSON.

It is not completely impossible that she would repeat these remarks in a court of law inasmuch as she appears to have no discretion. Further, her conversation is rambling and she does not give a direct answer to the simplest question. It is urged that these factors be considered in assaying her value as a witness.

The chronology of Q-1 is set out in the report of Special Agent DANIEL F. X. CALLAHAN dated February 17, 1949 at Baltimore, Maryland.

The Laboratory advised by letter dated December 15, 1948 that Q-1 is in the handwriting of HISS.

The signed statement of AIGER HISS is set out in the report of Special Agent FRANK G. JOHNSTONE dated December 4, 1948 at Baltimore.

Both BANNERMAN and R. F. KELLEY are currently employed by CIA.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

WFO FILE NO. 74-94

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 4/19/49	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/29-31; 4/1/49	REPORT MADE BY DONALD D. CONNORS JIF
TITLE JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was, etal			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>Text of handwritten note designated Q-1, M28-telg. MARY MARTIN, widow of HUGH MARTIN, formerly employed for special work by Legation at Riga. Remember well RUBENS while working for HUGH, be strict if needed, write Lib. Cong., Law Div." FBI laboratory advises this note in handwriting of HISS, although HISS denies note in own handwriting. State Department files reflect Moscow cablegram No. 30, dated January 28, 1938, reads as follows: "Moscow, January 28, 1938, Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.; 30; January 28, 11:00 A. M. Have received following telegram from MARTIN, widow of HUGH MARTIN, formerly employed for special work by Legation at Riga (Gray): Quote Remember well RUBENS while working for HUGH, be strict if needed, write Library of Congress, Law Division, signed MARY MARTIN unquote (end Gray) signed HENDERSON". Information copy of this cablegram sent to Office of Assistant Secretary SAYRE. State Department records reflect HUGH STREET MARTIN was State Department employee Latvian Legation, Riga and maintained "contact with confidential information sources", acted as investigator and prepared reports. MARY MARTIN, his wife, before marriage employed in Riga by HUGH MARTIN as "undercover woman agent on Communison"; prior to that employed "undercover woman" for Latvian and British Governments Military intelligence" and after death of HUGH MARTIN (1931) employed U. S. Labor Department as investigator in Communist matters. MARY MARTIN now MARIA OLKOWSKA, Washington resident, advised March 31, 1949 (and furnished statement) that in Latvia she knew one AARON ROBINSON, Agent, Holland-American S. S. Lines, involved fraudulent sale of passages</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
<p style="text-align: center;">COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <p>⑤ - Bureau 1 - T. J. Donegan, SAAG 3 - New York 2 - Washington Field</p>		<p style="font-size: 1.5em;">Kisseloff-7075</p>	